

3 --15. (Amended) The method of Claim 6, wherein (B) is selected from the group consisting of acetic acid, lactic acid, gluconic acid, fumaric acid,  $\alpha$ -ketoglutaric acid, succinic acid, glycolic acid, malic acid, tartaric acid, pyruvic acid, and malonic acid.--

--18. (Amended) A method for treating hypertension comprising:

administering a composition comprising:

(A) an isolated compound selected from the group consisting of caffeic acid, chlorogenic acid and ferulic acid, and esters and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof; and

(B) a component selected from the group consisting of a central nervous system stimulating component, food fiber, extract of perennial evergreen leaves of the genus *Camellia*, extract of perennial evergreen leaves of the genus *Theaceae*, extract of perennial evergreen leaves of the genus *Eucommia ulmoides* Oliver, *Eucommiae*, and a sugar alcohol.--

#### REMARKS

Claims 6-18 are pending. As discussed, independent Claims 6 and 18 have been amended to specify an isolated compound for component (A). Support for the amendment is found in the specification, for instance, at page 4, lines 25-27 through page 7, line 21, see especially page 4, which indicates that component (A) may be chemically synthesized, as thus would be isolated from any naturally occurring admixtures. Claim 15 has been amended to delete the term "citric acid".

The Applicants thank Examiner Coe for the courteous and helpful interview of December 3, 2002. As discussed, the independent claims have been amended to refer to isolated compounds. It was suggested that such an amendment would likely address the prior art issues, because the cited prior art (Hsu) is directed to herbal products and does not teach